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## Marian Forum

University of Dayton

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*Friday June 9, 2017*

## Marian Forum

The International Marian Research Institute (IMRI) has announced "Mary in Asia and Africa" as the theme for its next Marian Forum on Oct. 20, 2017, at the University of Dayton.

The two-hour event will be the fifth in a continuing series of free academic gatherings that IMRI has been sponsoring over the Internet to promote the study of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"We are producing our Marian Forums in order to present fresh research and to stimulate creative energies in the study of the mother of Jesus Christ," explained the Rev. Johann Roten, S.M., director of research and special projects at IMRI. "We decided on Africa and Asia for the theme of our next forum because we wanted to move beyond Eurocentrism and open new avenues of study. The great diversity of peoples in Africa and Asia makes these continents ideal for looking at how local culture influences the reception of Mary."

Two IMRI professors will present their research on Oct. 20. The Rev. Sébastien Abalodo, S.M., will show how the concept of motherhood in Sub-Saharan Africa has influenced these peoples' celebration of the

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dogma of the Mother of God. Sister Celia Chua, M.I.C, will give participants an appreciation of Marian devotion in China by explaining how it took root there and is bearing fruit today.

After presenting their research, the speakers will field questions from the worldwide audience that will be participating both online and in-person. The event begins at 2:30 pm Eastern (U.S.) time and ends at 4:30 pm. Admission is free, but IMRI requires participants to register online at <https://www.udayton.edu/imri/marian-forum/session-five.php> by Oct. 6. More information is also available at this website.

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